

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Claim 27 has been amended as requested in the Office Action. Hence, the objection to the claim should be removed. The rejections of claims 1-19 and 32-33 are moot in light of the cancellation of these claims. Said cancellation is being made without prejudice to later continuation applications.

Claims 27-30 are Patentable over Hoarty, even when considered in combination with Addington and/or Brodigan

Claim 27 recites a broadband multimedia router configured to encapsulate packets of media streams received from media sources coupled to the router within addressable packets for switching between inputs and outputs of the router. The Office Action agrees that no such router is taught by Hoarty (US 6305020), but cites Addington (US 6928656) for providing such teachings.

This conclusion is wrong. Addington describes the encapsulation of IP packets (addressable packets) within MPEG packets (non-addressable packets). See Addington at col. 7, ll. 41-45). This is precisely the opposite of the activity recited in claim 27 where packets of media streams are encapsulated within addressable packets. Hence, the claims are patentable over this combination of references.

In addition, dependent claims 29 and 30 are patentable over the combination of Hoarty, Addington and Brodigan (US 6530086). The Office Action cites Brodigan for teaching transmission of an IP address of a host computer assigned to a specific program channel and time associated with an STB. Even if true, however, combining such teachings with those of Hoarty and Addington would still not provide a broadband multimedia router configured to encapsulate packets of media streams received from media sources coupled to the router within addressable packets for switching between inputs and outputs of the router as recited in the parent claim 27. Hence, claims 29 and 30 are patentable over the combination of references.

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P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station
Sears Tower
Chicago, IL 60606-1080
(415) 882-5023

Respectfully submitted,
SONNENSCHNEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
/Tarek N. Fahmi/
Tarek N. Fahmi
Reg. No. 41,402